

After the first paragraph, insert:

--2. Description of the Related Art--

Page 3, before the first full ~~paragraph~~, insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Replace the current paragraph bridging ~~pages~~ 3 and 4 with the following paragraph:

B¹
--According to the inventive embodiment of the safety paper, the checking with regard to the presence of the authenticity feature is carried out in that an input signal, which triggers emitting an output signal, is transmitted to the circuit extending within the paper plane. Preferably, the input signal as well as the output signal are in the form of a carrier frequency oscillation modulated with the corresponding signal information, respectively. With a corresponding configuration of the circuit any desired information contents, preferably in binary form, can be encoded in the output signal as an authenticity feature. It is possible to provide the electronic circuit with a micro controller. By doing so, it is possible to assign at least one individual authenticity feature, for example,

the individual serial number of the micro controller, to any document produced on the safety paper. For example, in the case of a bank note, this can reside in that the authenticity feature represents in encoded form the monetary value and/or the serial number of the bank note provided on the optically readable printed image of the bank note. In a method for checking authenticity [according to claim 22], the optically readable contents of the document, in the exemplary embodiment the monetary value of the bank note and/or its serial number, and the output signal of the circuit encoding the contents can be automatically detected and compared with one another. The authenticity of the document, for example, the bank note, is confirmed by this method only when between the optically read contents and the information contents of the output signal of the circuit a predetermined correlation, for example, content identity, is present.--

Replace the first full paragraph on page 4 with the enclosed amended paragraph:

--A method [according to claim 26] and a document according to [claim 30] embodiments of the invention particularly take into account that especially bank notes can be separated into two parts and the respectively missing part can be replaced by

B1
cont

forgery. By providing a generally invisible authenticity feature, which can however be detected by technical means, for example, magnetically or by light not within the visible range, in one part and by storing information corresponding to this authenticity feature in the circuit on the other part, the two parts are coupled to one another in a forgery-proof way. The information contents corresponding to the detected authenticity feature is entered into the circuit during the authenticity check and is checked therein with regard to authenticity, for example, by comparison to reference information. The circuit only provides the output signal acknowledging authenticity when this authenticity check is positive.--

Page 5, replace paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 with the enclosed amended paragraph:

B2

--In this embodiment, the input signal not only serves to access the fixedly adjusted authenticity feature which is permanently correlated with the document produced on the safety paper; moreover, the information contents can be transmitted to the circuit with the input signal and can be stored therein and, in response to a subsequently received receiving signal, can also be transmitted with the emitted output signal. This embodiment is especially important with respect to [the] another method

B2
Cont

variant [claimed in the claims 19 and 20]. In this connection, at each location which examines the document produced on the safety paper, for example, at each bank which receives a bank note during its circulation, the examining location and optionally also the date of the examination, representing the information contents, is written into the circuit with the input signal during the checking process, for example, during a money counting process. During the subsequent checking processes, this information contents is transferable by means of the emitted output signal and provides in this way a local and temporal proof of stations which have been passed. Unauthorized money-laundering activities can thus be precisely traced.--

Page 6, replace paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 with the enclosed amended paragraph:

B3

--Another important principle of the invention resides in that the structure forming the circuit comprises an energy supply which can be recharged by contactless energy transmission. In this respect, it is especially expedient that the energy transmission is realized by a carrier frequency oscillation provided for modulation with the input signal. By doing so, the energy supply of the circuit can be realized completely from the exterior [by the method described in claim 21], and the circuit

B3
cont. does not require its own operating energy source; as a result of its limited service life and the fact that, in any case, it can hardly be formed paper- thin with current means, providing such energy source would present great difficulties with regard to a practical and economical realization of the safety paper.--

Page 12, delete entire first paragraph.

Replace second paragraph with the enclosed amended paragraph:

B4 --Such electro-optically [or thermally] controlled surface areas can be produced, in particular, by sputtering methods with which, in vacuum or in special gas atmospheres, metals or metal alloys can be applied in thin layers on thin plastic films. The thus coated plastic films, whose coating has been generated during the coating process, or also subsequently thereto, as a pattern that represents the authenticity feature in a positive or negative form, can then be applied onto the safety paper or embedded in its paper layer.--

Page 13, after the first full paragraph, insert:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--